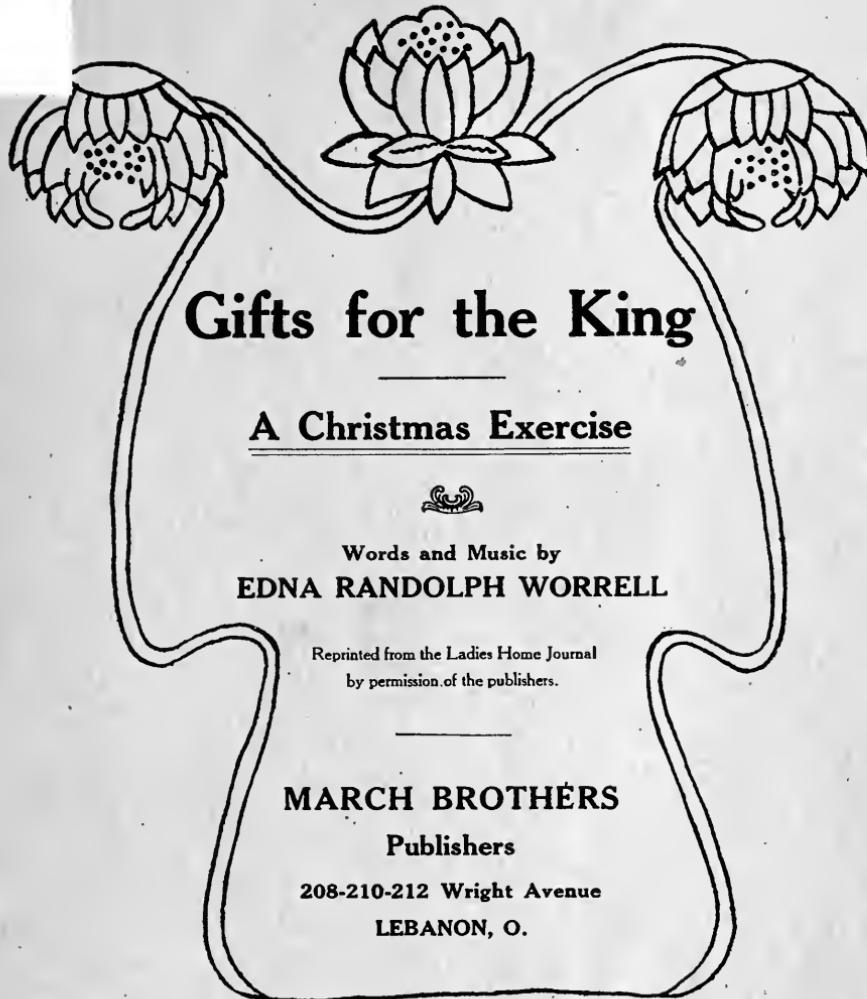


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Gifts for the King

A Christmas Exercise



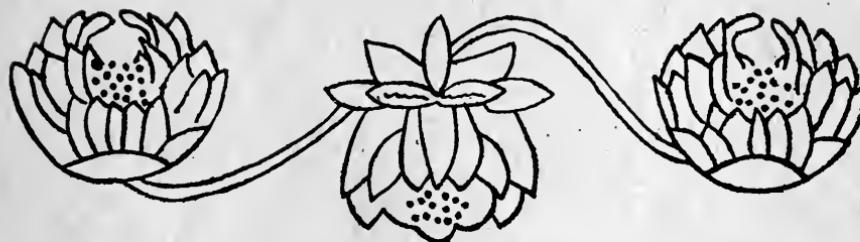
Words and Music by
EDNA RANDOLPH WORRELL

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Gifts for the King

A CHRISTMAS EXERCISE

Words and Music by

EDNA RANDOLPH WORRELL

AUTHOR OF

The Toy's Rebellion, The Runaway Bear,
Christmas at the Pole, Reaping and Giving.

MARCH BROTHERS

PUBLISHERS

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GIFTS FOR THE KING

A CHRISTMAS EXERCISE

[Reprinted from the *Ladies Home Journal*, by permission of the Publishers.]

CHARACTERS: Eight little girls representing the Gifts of Sight, Hearing, Speech, Actions, Steps, Thoughts, Feeling and Self. Eight larger girls representing the Gifts of Time, Talents, Intelligence, Obedience, Prayer, Praise, Faith and Love. A young lady representing the Gift of Service. [*All the characters wear long flowing gowns of white cheesecloth, the round necks and short sleeves being trimmed with tinsel, with girdles of the same. The hair should fall over the shoulders. Each wears a gilt crown finished with a star in front that rests on the forehead.*]

[*The Gifts are distinguished from one another by triangular breast-plates of white cardboard bearing the names of the various Gifts in gilt letters. They are worn points downward and should be suspended by Christmas-tree hooks from cords about the necks, so they may be easily detached. The reverse side of the triangle should be covered with gilt paper. Ten-inch equilateral triangles will be suitable for the little girls and twelve-inch triangles for the larger girls, including that worn by Service. An elevated throne should be placed at back center. It may be draped with yellow. A white background spangled with gilt stars should be used.*]

[*The Gifts enter in following order, smaller girls first: Right line—Feeling, Steps, Speech, Sight, Faith, Prayer, Intelligence, Time. Left line—Self, Thoughts, Actions, Hearing, Love, Praise, Obedience, Talents. Entering at the same time, the opposite files meet in the center and march in double column to the front. Dividing right and left, they meet again at back center, then march diagonally from the throne to the outer corners of the platform, leaving a wedge-shaped opening in the center. The larger girls form separate parallel lines outside those formed by the children. Service enters last, taking her place before the throne. “Brightest and Best of the Sons of the Morning” is sung by the Gifts as they enter, the*

following verse being rendered when all are in position, facing the audience:]

Vainly we offer each ample oblation,
 Vainly with gifts would His favor secure;
 Richer, by far, is the heart's adoration,
 Dearer to God are the prayers of the poor.

[This hymn will be found in the average church hymnal.]

SERVICE:

Dear friends, we remember the wonderful day
 That brought our blest Saviour to earth;
 Not only because of the influence sweet
 That came with the Lord at His birth.
 But because His descent to the world is indeed
 A gift everlasting to all;
 Which means life eternal with Jesus above,
 Whatever on earth may befall.

The Star of the East and the Magi of old;
 The angels in radiance framed,
 The shepherds adoring, would all be forgot,
 Were it not for the Gift they proclaimed.
 Then deep in the heart let our gratitude burn
 Till brightly in service it glows,
 To render again to the Giver of All
 The life He divinely bestows.

There is none but possesses some beauty of soul;
 Some use, that from talent may spring;
 Some virtue—a smile or a comforting word—
 To lay at the feet of our King.
 Then offer your gifts, nothing precious withhold,
 Just trust in His word and believe
 The heavenly doctrine He preached upon earth:
 “’Tis more blessed to give than receive.”

TIME [*entering open space from right of throne*]:

I will give my Time to Jesus,
 My times are in His hands.

[Time holds shield aloft in right hand, faces audience.]

TALENTS [*left*]: I give the Lord my Talents that they may increase for Him, some thirty, some sixty and some a hundred fold.

[Holds shield aloft in left hand. Stands opposite Time.]

INTELLIGENCE [*right*]: I give the Lord my Intelligence that my light shall so shine before men that they may see my good works and glorify my Father which is in heaven.

[*Holds shield in right hand, taking place in front of Time.*]

OBEDIENCE [*left*]: I give the Lord my Obedience, for to obey is better than sacrifice.

[*Holds shield in left hand, taking place in front of Talents.*]

PRAYER [*right*]: I will give my prayers to God and will look up, for the prayers of the upright are His delight.

[*Holds shield in right hand, taking place in front of Intelligence.*]

PRAISE [*left*]: I will praise the Lord with my whole heart, for whoso offereth praise glorifieth God.

[*Holds shield in left hand and stands before Obedience.*]

FAITH [*right*]: I give the Lord my Faith, for He is my light and my salvation; the Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

[*Holds shield in right hand and stands before Prayer.*]

LOVE [*left*]: I give the Lord my all, my Love, for love is the fulfillment of the law.

[*Holds shield in left hand and stands before Praise.*]

[*The shields are here lowered, and the larger girls, standing opposite one another, clasp hands, forming an arch under which the little ones pass in single file, beginning with first child at the right of the throne, then the first at the left, and so on. As each child emerges from the arch she recites from the center of the platform, then moves to the right or the left to give place to the succeeding speaker. The verses to be recited are as follows:*]

FIRST CHILD:

I can give my sight to Jesus,
Looking daily to my King,
Reading from His Holy Bible,
Seeing good in everything.

SECOND CHILD:

I can *listen* to my Savior,
 Trying hard to understand
All His loving words to children,
 Heeding every soft command.

THIRD CHILD:

I can give my *words* to Jesus,
 Knowing that He longs to hear
Children's prayers and loving praises,
 Holding all their sayings dear.

FOURTH CHILD:

I can give my *work* to Jesus;
 Little hands that do their best
Please their loving, watchful Maker;
 Every task will then be blest.

FIFTH CHILD:

I can give my *steps* to Jesus;
 Tiny feet can never stray
When the Christ Child goes before them
 In the straight and narrow way.

SIXTH CHILD:

I can give my *mind* to Jesus;
 Like the pretty birds that fly
All my thoughts can flutter upward
 Till they reach Him in the sky.

SEVENTH CHILD:

I can give my *heart* to Jesus,
 Knowing then I'll ne'er offend,
E'en with word or deed or action,
 Him we call the Children's Friend.

EIGHTH CHILD:

I can give *myself* to Jesus—
 All I am and hope to be;
'Tis the gift He asked when saying:
 "Little children, come to me."

[*The larger girls break the arch and group to the right and left of the throne, while the little girls sing the motion song entitled, "Jesus Gives So Much to Me!"*]

Jesus Gives So Much to Me.

Words and Music by Edna Randolph Worrell.

1. Jesus gives so much to me—Shows me loving care, Gives the home in which I live,
 2. Jesus gives so much to me—Parents best of all, Teachers ev-er good and kind,

All I eat and wear, Pret-ty toys and hap-py days, Ev'-ry-thing I see— Oh
 Many playmates small; E-ven gave Himself to us, Christmas long a-go— Oh,

CHORUS.

what can I re-turn to Him Who gives so much to me? I can give my eyes to Him,
 what can I re-turn to Him Who loves His children so?

rit.

List'ning ears as well; I can give my lips to Him, Of His gifts they tell; I can give my

hands to Him, Willing footsteps too; I can give my heart to Him, Because He loves me true.

[To the same music the children break the line in the center, and march right and left to form a line near the throne in front of that formed by other Gifts. Service, rising, then recites as follows:]

It is told of that night upon Bethlehem's hills,
When sin for the time took its flight,
That the stars seemed to gleam as though heaven itself
Had peeped through the curtain of night;
But to those with the power to see through the veil
'Twixt this and the land of true worth,
Each star was an angel, whose beauty shone forth
To light the dear Savior to earth.

There were angels of Mercy in glittering crowns,
And angels of Goodness and Truth;
There were angels of Prudence, of Wisdom and Strength,
And angels of Mirth and of Youth;
And, forming the brilliance of Bethlehem's Star
That flashed like a diamond above,
Were angels of Joy and of Peace and Good Will,
And angels of Praise and of Love.

And Christ in their midst, the great Light of all Lights,
The Day Star that came from on high,
Illumined the earth, though the world knew it not,
Revealing a path to the sky.
And all who are striving the Master to please
Are treading this heavenly way,
While you, like the angels, in living your gifts
Are *Lights* for the Savior today.

[On the word "Lights" (after which a pause should be made) all cross shields in couples, gilded side out, and march to the song, "Gifts for the King." See Figure I.]

Gifts for the King.

Words and Music by Edna Randolph Worrell.



1. Gifts for the Mas-ter! Gifts for the King! Has-ten to-day your off-'rings to bring.
2. Gifts for the Mas-ter! Gifts great and small, Bring them to Him, He'll cher-ish them all.
3. Lights for the Mas-ter! Stars shin-ing down, Gems for His scepter, jewels for His crown.



Gifts of the spir-it, faith, hope and love, Brightly will shine as stars up a-bove.
 Lit by the glance of Je-sus di-vine, E-ven the least of off-'rings will shine.
 These are the gifts pure lives ev-er bring, Bea-cons of glo-ry, Lights for the King!



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[On the last verse *Service* and the four *Gifts* nearest her form a frame with their shields, the face of *Service* appearing in the opening. See Figure II.]

TABLEAU

Gifts for the Master! Gifts for the King!
 Haste-n today your offerings to bring.
 Gifts of the spirit, faith, hope and love,
 Brightly will shine as stars up above.

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